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IV 2349305

INTERNAL AFFAIRS BUREAU

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

IV 2349305

SUBJECT: **Marland S. Wooldridge, Deputy, #[redacted]**

DATES OF INCIDENT: **May 2012 through September 2013**

ALLEGATIONS:

This case pertains to Subject Deputy Marland Wooldridge's possible connection with an illegal gambling organization, doing business as Macho Sports. The FBI conducted a telephone wiretap operation, during which, it was discovered that Subject Wooldridge had ties with members Macho Sports. Subsequently, several members of Macho Sports were arrested by the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI). Subject Wooldridge was initially investigated as a suspect, but it was determined that he would not be charged with lying to the FBI. It is alleged that Subject Wooldridge violated Department policies by associating with the known criminals, and also that he did not fully cooperate when interviewed by FBI special agents.

SYNOPSIS:

On June 19, 2013, several members of an illegal gambling organization, doing business as Macho Sports, were arrested by Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) agents. Through wire-tapped recorded telephone calls, FBI agents discovered that Subject Deputy Marland Wooldridge was acquainted with some of those members. On July 10, 2013, the FBI enlisted the assistance of the Department's Internal Criminal Investigations Bureau (ICIB), Sergeant Eric Castano, to determine Subject Wooldridge's possible involvement in criminal activity. Also, due to Subject Wooldridge's position as a background investigator, Sergeant Castano was to determine if Subject Wooldridge may have provided confidential information to members of the organization.

Sergeant Castano reviewed the FBI wire-tapped recordings **[2 CDs provided with Exhibit A]** and determined Subject Wooldridge had a close, personal relationship to [redacted] a "bookie" for the organization. The recorded conversations were between Subject Wooldridge and Mr. [redacted] In the wire-tapped recordings, Mr. [redacted] referred to Subject Wooldridge as "Slash." Also in the wire-tapped recordings, Subject Wooldridge was heard discussing another member of Macho Sports, named [redacted] whose true name is [redacted]. [redacted] was a "collector" for the Macho Sports Organization. Sergeant Castano compared Subject Wooldridge's personal cellular telephone against the Inmate Telephone Monitoring System (ITMS). He also reviewed Department emails, and Justice Data Interface Controller (JDIC) searches conducted by Subject Wooldridge, from October 1, 2012 through July 11, 2013. He found nothing connecting him to the gambling organization.

Sergeant Castano found no evidence that Subject Wooldridge used any Department resource to provide information to anyone outside of the agency. Refer to the ICIB memo in **[Exhibit A]**.

IAB Note: **Sergeant Castano's ICIB memorandum listed the name of "John" [redacted] however his correct name is [redacted]**

IAB Note: A "Bookie" is a slang term for "bookmaker." A bookmaker is someone who facilitates gambling, commonly on sporting events, by setting odds, accepting and placing bets, and paying out winnings on behalf of other people. A "Collector" is someone who collects debts on behalf of a bookmaker, company or organization.

Subject Wooldridge was interviewed by FBI Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted], on September 8, 2013, and on November 1, 2013. Following is a summary of both interviews:

IAB Note: Two FBI case reports, dated September 18, 2013 and December 9, 2013, were included in [Exhibit A] of the case.

During the first FBI interview on September 8, 2013, Subject Wooldridge admitted being acquainted with Mr. [redacted] Sometime in June of 2012, Subject Wooldridge borrowed $10,000 from Mr. [redacted] and at the time of the interview, still owed approximately $8000. Subject Wooldridge denied knowing anything about Mr. [redacted] involvement in the Macho Sports Organization. Subject Wooldridge admitted placing a bet with Mr. [redacted] one time, approximately fifteen years ago.

IAB Note: Although the FBI report dated, December 9, 2013, stated Subject Wooldridge borrowed 10,000 from [redacted] Subject Wooldridge confirmed the amount to be $12,000.

During the course of the FBI interview, the agents noted Wooldridge was "reluctant" to provide candid and detailed information about [redacted] Subject Wooldridge initially said he did not know anyone by the name of [redacted] The FBI agents disclosed that they had wire-tapped telephone conversations between him and Mr. [redacted] discussing [redacted] Subject Wooldridge then admitted knowing [redacted]

Subject Wooldridge was asked about accessing arrest information for [redacted] He said he used public websites to access the information, and not any law enforcement resources.

FBI agents told Sergeant Castano that a second interview with Subject Wooldridge was necessary, due to his reluctance to provide details about his relationships with Mr. [redacted] and Mr. [redacted]

On November 1, 2013, a second FBI interview with Subject Wooldridge was conducted. The interviewed was conducted at the United States Attorney's Office, 880 Front Street, San Diego, California. Subject Wooldridge was accompanied by his attorney, Mike McDonnell. Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) Andrew Schopler was also present for the interview.

IAB Note: The ICIB memo stated Subject Wooldridge's attorney was Jeff Salberg. However, the FBI noted Subject Wooldridge's attorney was Mike Mcdonnell.

FBI agents noted that Subject Wooldridge expressed remorse about not being fully cooperative in the first interview. Subject Wooldridge explained he was shocked by the presence of FBI agents at his home. He also said he had several personal issues that affected his answers during the first interview.

During the first interview, September 8, 2013, Subject Wooldridge denied knowing that [redacted] was a "collector" for Macho Sports. Subject Wooldridge denied knowledge of [redacted] being a gang member. Subject Wooldridge said he placed one bet, fifteen years ago with Mr. [redacted] During the second interview, November 1, 2013, he admitted Mr. [redacted] told him [redacted] was a "collector." He also described [redacted] as the "muscle" for the organization. He said it was not immediately known to him [redacted] was a gang member, but was later told by Mr. [redacted] He said he placed a bet with Mr. [redacted] a "handful of times."

The FBI noted that Subject Wooldridge appeared to be consistent in other topics of the interviews related to attending high school with Mr. [redacted] and his knowledge of Mr. [redacted] being a "bookie" involved in off-shore betting. Subject Wooldridge maintained he only used public websites to access [redacted] booking information. He said he borrowed money from Mr. [redacted] and was in the process of repaying the debt. The borrowed money was not related to gambling, it was for personal/family issues that arose. He was also aware that Mr. [redacted] had been either arrested or questioned by law enforcement, but he was not certain about the circumstances.

The FBI concluded that Subject Wooldridge was not going to be indicted for lying to federal officers for the discrepancies between his statements during the two interviews. They also did not intend on indicting him for illegal gambling.

ICIB Sergeant Castano determined Subject Wooldridge was not involved in the Macho Sports gambling organization and had no involvement in the organization's debt collection activities. On January 10, 2014, ICIB closed their criminal case involving Subject Wooldridge. The ICIB case was sent to Internal Affairs Bureau for further investigation into possible Department policy violations.

INVESTIGATION:

Internal Affairs Bureau investigators interviewed the below personnel. Following is a summary of the interview. For more information and precise wording, see the attached verbatim interview transcription.

Subject Marland Wooldridge

On September 9, 2015, Subject Marland Wooldridge was interviewed by IAB Sergeants Sonja Bracken and Brenda Gibson at the Internal Affairs Bureau office. Subject Wooldridge was represented by Audra Call from the Law Offices of Green and Shinee. The interview was digitally recorded. Following is a summary of that interview:

Subject Wooldridge said he had not been called to testify in the federal trials regarding the Macho Sports Organization, and he did not know the results of the trials. He confirmed that he was not a target of a federal indictment.

Subject Wooldridge has been employed with the Sheriff's Department for seventeen years, and has worked various [redacted] during that time. During his current assignment as a background investigator, his duties include conducting background investigations for custody assistant and deputy sheriff applicants. In order to conduct the investigations, Subject Wooldridge utilizes Department computers to access Justice Data Interface Controller (JDIC) records, Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) records, and also social media websites.

Subject Wooldridge said he went to high school with Mr. [redacted] and has known him since 1984. He did not consider Mr. [redacted] a good friend, but said they had mutual friends in common. They lost contact for several years, but reconnected at Melody Bar & Grille, located at 9132 Sepulveda Boulevard, Westchester, in 1990 or 1991. Subject Wooldridge said he did not know Mr. [redacted] personally, and did not know if he has a criminal record.

Subject Wooldridge was asked about his nickname "Slash." He said he received the nickname "Slash" while in high school. He did not recall who gave him the name, but said it was related to him playing several different sports, just as former professional football player Kordell Stewart had done. Kordell Stewart was also nicknamed "Slash."

IAB investigators asked Subject Wooldridge about his statement in the **FBI report, dated September 18, 2013, refer in [page 5]**, saying he was aware Mr. [redacted] had been arrested in the early 2000's. Subject Wooldridge did not recall making the statement. He said Mr. [redacted] could have been arrested for Driving Under the Influence (DUI), but was not sure. He was asked about the different statements he made to FBI agents, denying knowledge Mr. [redacted] had been arrested, and then saying Mr. [redacted] had possibly been questioned in the early 1990's, on the **FBI report, dated December 9, 2013, refer in [page 4]**. He had no knowledge if Mr. [redacted] had been arrested for gambling.

Subject Wooldridge said Mr. [redacted] worked for the Macho Sports Organization, working with online gambling. He did not know Mr. [redacted] actual position or title. He said he thought the organization was legal. He claimed to have seen other online gambling sites on television, so he never questioned the legality of Macho Sports.

He estimated he knew Mr. [redacted] had an online gambling service for over ten to fifteen years, but did not know the name of the company. Subject Wooldridge could not recall what year he became aware of the Macho Sports Organization. He was not aware if Macho Sports provided loans to people.

Subject Wooldridge said he never placed a bet with Macho Sports or any online services. He placed one-on-one Superbowl game bets, with Mr. [redacted] two to three times. He said those bets occurred over fifteen years ago. IAB investigators referred to the **FBI report**, **dated September 18, 2013, page 1**, on which Subject Wooldridge admitted knowing Mr. [redacted] was a "bookie" and that he took "offshore" bets. Subject Wooldridge believed Mr. [redacted] told him the company was based in Peru, so that is why he called it "offshore" betting. He said he heard of a conspirator, [redacted] Macho Sports Operations), but had never met him.

> **IAB Note: "Offshore betting" is the act of placing gambling bets on various sporting events with online casinos, usually online via various methods of money transfers.**

Subject Wooldridge said over the years, Mr. [redacted] told him about various things that occurred with Macho Sports, but he never paid attention to what he may have said about their collection activities. Mr. [redacted] did not tell him if the organization hurt people in order to collect any money owed to them. Subject Wooldridge said he did not make any collections for Mr. [redacted] or Macho Sports.

Subject Wooldridge admitted borrowing money from Mr. [redacted] in either May or June of 2012, but was not sure of the month. He borrowed $12,000, and there were no terms of how he was to pay back the loan or by when. He felt comfortable borrowing the money from Mr. [redacted] because he was a friend. Subject Wooldridge was separated from his wife, and thought he was going to experience a divorce. Afterward, Mr. [redacted] then reached out to him and offered him help during that troubling time. He said he did not feel indebted to Mr. [redacted] for loaning him the money.

Subject Wooldridge said he did not consider that he or his family would be in danger, if he did not repay the loan to Mr. [redacted] He said he had not seen Mr. [redacted] or [redacted] engage in any criminal activity in his presence. Subject Wooldridge admitted attending a Superbowl event with Mr. [redacted] in 2013, which was after he received the loan from him.

Subject Wooldridge said he did not consider borrowing the money from a bank or family member due to pride. He knew that most people did not have money to loan, and felt it would have been burdensome to ask someone he was closer to, or a real friend, for the money. He also did not consider contacting a financial institution that catered to law enforcement.

Subject Wooldridge said he still owed Mr. [redacted] $8000 on the loan. He saw Mr. [redacted] at Melody Bar & Grille, once since [redacted] arrest in June of 2013. They did not speak to each other. At the time of the IAB interview, Subject Wooldridge said he was not concerned that he still owed Mr. [redacted] money.

Subject Wooldridge became aware of Mr. [redacted] arrest in June of 2013, when Mr. [redacted], called him. That is also when he learned Macho Sports was an illegal gambling organization. He said he knew [redacted] from meeting her at Melody Bar & Grille. She knew he was a deputy sheriff. [redacted] asked him if he could write a "character" letter for Mr. [redacted], and he told her, "No." Subject Wooldridge said he did not know Mr. [redacted] well enough to write a letter for him, and it was not in his character to write letters for people.

Subject Wooldridge said during the telephone conversation with [redacted] she also may have mentioned something about Mr. [redacted] attorney. He did not remember if [redacted] gave him the attorney's information. He did not recall speaking with Mr. [redacted] attorney. He denied that [redacted] sent him any letters about Mr. [redacted] arrest, as stated on the **FBI report, dated September 18, 2013, page 4**. He said [redacted] texted him with a news article attached, showing that Mr. [redacted] had gotten arrested. He did not recall ever speaking with [redacted] any time after that telephone conversation. After he spoke to [redacted] he cut all ties with everyone associated with Macho Sports.

Subject Wooldridge said during the first FBI interview, **report dated, September 18, 2013, page 2**, the agents did not directly ask him if he knew [redacted] but rather showed him several photographs and asked him if he recognized any of the people. He said he identified a few of the people in the photographs, and [redacted] was one of them. Subject Wooldridge said his identification of [redacted] was not based on the FBI telling him about the wire-tapped recordings, as stated on **FBI report dated, September 18, 2013, page 1-2**. He told the agents that he knew [redacted] based on them telling him who he was, and showing him [redacted] photograph.

Subject Wooldridge was asked to explain the difference in the amount of years he told the FBI agents that he had known [redacted] He said ten years in the first FBI interview, **report dated, September 18, page 3**, and in the second interview, **report dated December 9, 2013, page 2**, he said five years. He said although, he and [redacted] grew up in the same neighborhood when they were young, he had no recent contacts with [redacted] He came into contact with [redacted] again through Mr. [redacted] at Melody Bar and Grille. He could not specifically recall when that occurred, but he might have told the FBI agents, five to ten years.

Subject Wooldridge denied knowledge of [redacted] criminal history and if he had any gang affiliation, until he spoke with Mr. [redacted] about [redacted] in January or February of 2013. Subject Wooldridge said in the second interview, he told FBI investigators he was aware [redacted] worked for Mr. [redacted] and for Macho Sports, not that [redacted] was a "collector" as stated in the **FBI report, dated December 9, 2013, page 1-2.**

Subject Wooldridge told IAB investigators he grew up near Rosecrans Park in Gardena, where [redacted] also grew up. He was aware gang members frequented the park. He did not recall if Mr. [redacted] ever told him [redacted] was gang member. He thought Mr. [redacted] may have told him [redacted] was a Crip gang member, but he had no direct knowledge of that. He did not recall when he and Mr. [redacted] may have had that conversation about [redacted] Subject Wooldridge did not recall telling the FBI agents [redacted] was a "muscle guy," as stated in the second FBI report, **dated December 9, 2013, page 3**. He said he did not normally use that terminology.

Subject Wooldridge said he looked up arrest information about [redacted] via inmate information in January or February of 2013, after [redacted] was arrested. He recalled using an Orange County inmate information search criteria, but he could not recall if he was at home or at work when he conducted the search. He said he used a public information website. He also said he may have used his cellphone to conduct the search.

Subject Wooldridge denied using a Department computer or resources to research arrest information about [redacted] He researched the information for Mr. [redacted] because Mr. [redacted] was not very computer savvy. He did not feel obligated to conduct the search for Mr. [redacted] He felt like Mr. [redacted] was a friend, and if anyone else asked him to access public information, he would have done it for them as well. He denied conducting any other computer searches for Mr. [redacted] He did not recall mentioning that he used "Google" when he spoke to the FBI agents. Since then, neither Mr. [redacted] nor anyone else associated with Macho Sports has ever asked him to run any other information using a Department resource.

Subject Wooldridge was asked if he considered showing Mr. [redacted] how to access [redacted] information on a computer or advising him to ask someone else to show him how to conduct the search. Subject Wooldridge said he did not think about those options. He said prior to [redacted] arrest in January of 2013, he had never socialized with [redacted]

Subject Wooldridge said [redacted], called him, sometime after [redacted] arrest. He said the conversation lasted approximately thirty seconds. She told him [redacted] had been arrested and asked if there was anything he could do, such as writing a letter of recommendation. Subject Wooldridge told [redacted] to seek legal advice through an attorney, and that he could not write a letter for [redacted] Subject Wooldridge said he told [redacted] he would call her back, but he never did. He has not had any further contact with her since that telephone conversation.

IAB investigators asked Subject Wooldridge why he told Mr. [redacted] "I been knowing the [redacted] a long time and a letter wouldn't do him no good" (February 1, 2013, 4:13pm wire-tapped recording). His response was because he had already discovered [redacted] arrest charges during the computer search he had conducted. He said he would not write a letter based on [redacted] arrest, and the character of a person like him.

Subject Wooldridge said he did not use his employment with the Department to coerce or threaten Mr. [redacted] into loaning him the money. With his position as a background investigator, he said he did not use any Department inside information to benefit financially or enhance his credibility with Mr. [redacted] or anyone associated with Macho Sports. Subject Wooldridge said he did not feel his association with Macho Sports was compromising his position with the Department in any way.

Subject Wooldridge said the second FBI interview, **December 9, 2013 report**, occurred because he decided to seek legal advice. He wanted to be upfront with FBI agents about everything and his attorney suggested they meet with them, so he could get an idea of what was occurring with the investigation. He said his attorney called the FBI agents to set up the second interview.

Subject Wooldridge was asked if he was under the impression he could be criminally indicted. He said the FBI told him he was not a "target," and they did not feel he was involved in criminal activities associated with Macho Sports. He felt retaining an attorney after the first FBI interview was the right thing to do.

Subject Wooldridge was asked if he apologized to the FBI agents at the beginning of the second interview, for not being upfront during the first interview, as stated in the **ICIB memo, page 3**. He said he did not recall apologizing to them. He said he was caught off-guard when FBI agents came to his home on September 8, 2013. According to Subject Wooldridge he was in the middle of a bad time in his life, dealing with personal issues, and had just returned back from a trip. He felt he did not have anything to hide, so he agreed to speak with agents that day.

In reference to the Justice Data Interface Controller (JDIC) searches conducted by Subject Wooldridge, there was one person that ICIB Sergeant Castano located, which did not appear to be related to his duties. IAB investigators asked Subject Wooldridge about that search, conducted on [redacted] **(ICIB memo, page 2)**. Subject Wooldridge was shown a Consolidated Criminal History System (CCHRS) printout of [redacted]. He recognized [redacted]'s address of [redacted], on the printout. Subject Wooldridge said [redacted] was the [redacted] of an applicant. The applicant was the [redacted] of retired Sergeant [redacted]. The applicant's name was [redacted].

> **IAB Note: [redacted]'s name was on Wooldridge's case load printout [Exhibit C, Page 1]**.

> **IAB Note: Sergeant Bracken confirmed with retired Sergeant [redacted]. [redacted] said that [redacted] was his [redacted] and [redacted] grew up with [redacted] [redacted] was in backgrounds with the Department and is now a deputy at Century Regional Detention Center. [redacted] called [redacted] "A play [redacted]"**

Based on the time the loan from Mr. [redacted] originated (possibly May or June of 2012), a printout of the JDIC information, from May 1, 2012 through October 31, 2012, was reviewed and included with this case. Refer to **[Exhibit B]**. Additionally, a printout of the applicants who were assigned to Subject Wooldridge for background checks during the same timeframe was included in this case. Refer to **[Exhibit C]**.

During the review of the JDIC information, a person named [redacted] **[Exhibit B, Page 179]**, was discovered that did not appear to be a Department related inquiry. During the IAB interview, Subject Wooldridge was asked about [redacted]. He did not recall why he conducted a search on [redacted], but he denied the search was related to Macho Sports in any way.

Subject Wooldridge said he did not accept any bribes, rewards, loans, gifts, or favors from anyone associated with Macho Sports. He was not asked to do any favors for Mr. [redacted] or Macho Sports in relation with his employment with the Department.

Subject Wooldridge said he did not notify his unit commander or receive permission to associate with [redacted] or [redacted] He did not feel he had a reason to notify his unit commander. Based on his knowledge of the Department's Fraternization and Prohibited Associations policy, he said he was not part of anything illegal, causing the need for any notification.

Subject Wooldridge's understanding of the Department's policy regarding Cooperating during a Criminal Investigation was; he had a responsibility to cooperate and do what is asked of him. His understanding of the Department's policy regarding obstructing an investigation was, if a criminal investigation is being conducted, and he is asked questions, he is supposed to cooperate. He assumed the same applied to any type of investigation, including administrative.

Witness [redacted]

On April 25, 2016, IAB Sergeants Jeff Hamil, and Paul Valle interviewed Witness [redacted] at the [redacted] Following is a summary of his interview;

> **IAB Note: Witness [redacted] is currently in [redacted] for a [redacted], and he is "Pro-Per." Prior to the interview IAB Sergeant Hamil contacted Orange County District Attorney Robert Miestman, and received approval for the administrative interview.**

Witness [redacted] said he grew up with Subject Wooldridge, but had little contact with him in years. Witness [redacted] knew Subject Wooldridge was a deputy but denied he had contact with him. Witness [redacted] denied he worked for Mr. [redacted] or any gambling company. Witness [redacted] denied he was [redacted] or went by the nickname of [redacted] He said he was not a gang member and has never associated with a gang. Witness [redacted] denied knowledge of any girl named [redacted] or having asked Subject Wooldridge for any help.

> **IAB Note: IAB Investigators searched "CAL GANGS," and Witness [redacted] was not documented as a gang member.**

On September 16, 2015, IAB Sergeant Bracken attempted to contact [redacted] via his attorney, Mark Werksman. Werksman called back and advised that Mr. [redacted] was in a rehabilitation center, and did not wish to be interviewed about Subject Wooldridge.

On April 21, 2016, IAB Sergeant Hamil, contacted Lompoc Federal Prison in an attempt to interview Mr. [redacted]. On April 24, 2016, Sergeant Hamil was contacted by Federal Case Worker Mrs. Hawkins, Mr. [redacted] refused the interview. Copy of the voicemail message to be kept in investigators file.

IAB Investigators attempted to contact [redacted], (Subject Wooldridge's [redacted]) by telephoning the last three phone numbers she had. All three had been disconnected. IAB Investigators sent a certified letter requesting an interview to [redacted]'s last known address. No response was received. The copy of the receipt will be kept in the investigative file.



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HALL OF JUSTICE

JIM MCDONNELL, SHERIFF

June 2, 2016

Deputy Marland Wooldridge, #[redacted]

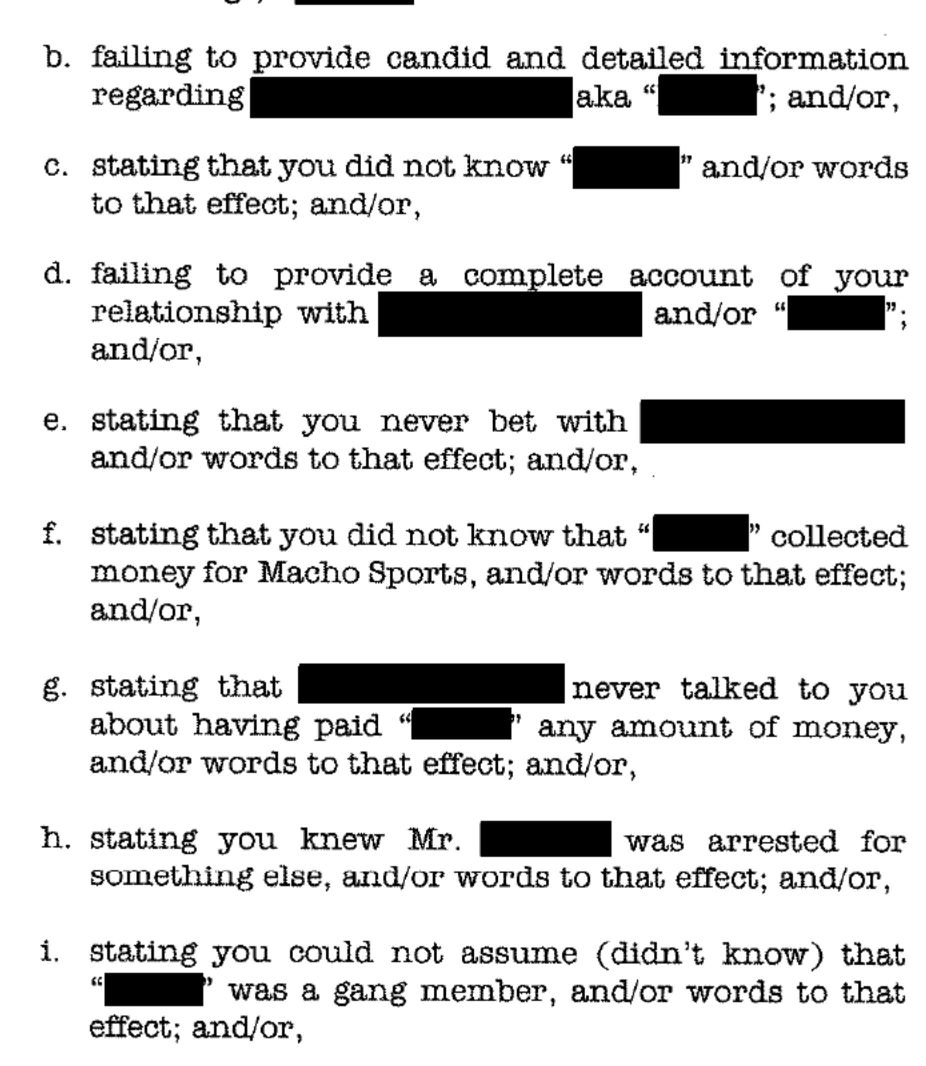
Dear Deputy Wooldridge:

You are hereby notified that it is the intention of the Sheriff's Department to discharge you from your position of Deputy Sheriff, Item No. 2708A, with this Department, effective the close of business June 23, 2016.

An investigation under IAB File Number 2349305, conducted by Internal Affairs Bureau, coupled with your own statements, has established the following:

1. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Sections 3-01/040.85, Cooperation During Criminal Investigation; and/or 3-01/040.76, Obstructing an Investigation; and/or, 3-01/040.75, False Statements; and/or 3-01/030.05, General Behavior, on or about September 8, 2013, you failed to fully cooperate in, or obstructed an investigation when you knowingly provided false evidence, and/or withheld information, and/or failed to make full, complete, and truthful statements to members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation as they conducted an investigation regarding an illegal gambling operation as evidenced by, but not limited to:

   a. admitting on November 1, 2013, to members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that you were not being fully cooperative during your first interview on September 8, 2013, and expressing remorse, and/or words to that effect; and/or,



b. failing to provide candid and detailed information regarding [redacted] aka "[redacted]"; and/or,

c. stating that you did not know "[redacted]" and/or words to that effect; and/or,

d. failing to provide a complete account of your relationship with [redacted] and/or "[redacted]"; and/or,

e. stating that you never bet with [redacted] and/or words to that effect; and/or,

f. stating that you did not know that "[redacted]" collected money for Macho Sports, and/or words to that effect; and/or,

g. stating that [redacted] never talked to you about having paid "[redacted]" any amount of money, and/or words to that effect; and/or,

h. stating you knew Mr. [redacted] was arrested for something else, and/or words to that effect; and/or,

i. stating you could not assume (didn't know) that "[redacted]" was a gang member, and/or words to that effect; and/or,

j. stating that you pretended to make promises to [redacted] and/or words to that effect.

Your conduct brought discredit to himself and/or the Department.

2. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Sections 3-01/050.85, Fraternization and Prohibited Associations; and/or 3-01/030.05, General Behavior; and/or 3-01/000.13, Professional Conduct – Core Values, on or about and/or between January 7, 1998 through June 19, 2013, you maintained a personal relationship with [redacted] a person who you knew, or reasonably should have known facilitated gambling, and/or knew, or should have reasonably known that your association with [redacted] would otherwise be detrimental to the image of the Department and/or be an immediate threat to the

integrity of the Department. Your conduct was inconsistent with the Core Values of the Department and/or brought discredit to yourself and/or the Department as evidenced by, but not limited to:

a. admitting during a September 9, 2015, administrative interview that you maintained a personal relationship with [redacted] since 1990 or 1991, up and until June 19, 2013, when [redacted] was arrested by the Federal Bureau of Investigation for conducting unlawful computer and telephonic serviced-based sports gambling; and/or,

b. being audio-recorded speaking with [redacted] and/or [redacted] on numerous occasions during a Federal Bureau of Investigation's probe into illegal gambling; and/or,

c. admitting during a September 8, 2013, interview with members of the Federal Bureau of Investigations that you knew [redacted] was a "bookie," person who facilitated gambling, and that [redacted] took bets "off-shore"; and/or,

d. admitting during a September 8, 2013, interview with members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that you knew [redacted] was arrested for something else, and/or words to that effect; and/or,

e. admitting during a September 8, 2013, interview with members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that you borrowed $10,000 (amount was actually $12,000) from [redacted] with no terms or contract regarding paying back the loan, and/or words to that effect; and/or,

f. admitting during a November 1, 2013, interview with members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that you knew [redacted] had been questioned regarding gambling charges; and/or,

g. admitting during a November 1, 2013, interview with members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that you made a handful of bets with

[redacted] and/or words to that effect; and/or,

h. admitting during a November 1, 2013, interview with members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that you still owed [redacted] $8,000 on the loan and you used the money to pay attorney fees and living expenses, and/or words to that effect; and/or,

i. being audio-recorded on February 1, 2013, by the Federal Bureau of Investigation discussing with [redacted] "[redacted]" status as a "fucking parolee," and/or " that "[redacted]" was arrested for terrorist threats, threatening to kill someone, and a home invasion robbery, and/or that [redacted] gave "[redacted]" "50 grand" and "he pissed it all away, taking his [redacted] out, you know, probably staying at the Ritz Carlton, doing a bunch of coke and all this, whatever, and in eight months $100 thousand dollars was gone," and/or affirming to [redacted] that you would look at "Lurch's" information tomorrow when returned to work and stating that you would follow up with "Star," and/or words to that effect; and/or,

j. admitting during a November 1, 2013, interview with members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that you knew "Lurch" was a "collector" and "muscle" who retrieved gambling debts for [redacted] and Macho Sports; and/or,

k. admitting during a November 1, 2013, interview with members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that [redacted] told you that "[redacted]" was a gang member and he believed "[redacted]" was a "[redacted]"; and/or,

l. stating during a November 1, 2013, interview with members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that you and [redacted] discussed how "[redacted]" was the organizer of the organization and how the organization was set up in Panama and Peru, and/or words to that effect; and/or,

m. being audio-recorded on February 3, 2013, by the

Federal Bureau of Investigation discussing with [redacted] that "[redacted]" owed him "three grand" and "[redacted]" stiffed him for "four thousand"; and/or,

n. being audio-recorded on January 31, 2013, by the Federal Bureau of Investigation accepting an invitation to [redacted] Super Bowl party in February of 2013; and/or,

o. attending [redacted] Super Bowl party in Santa Monica and being audio-recorded by members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on February 3, 2013, asking [redacted] why he had not arrived for the Super Bowl party; and/or,

p. being audio-recorded by members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on February 5, 2013, discussing the events that occurred at the Super Bowl party.

3. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Section 3-01/030.07, Immoral Conduct, on or about May or June 2012, you exercised poor judgement and knowingly received a $12,000 loan from [redacted] someone you knew or should have known organized and participated in an illegal gambling operation and used "collectors" or "muscle" to retrieve unpaid debts. You remain indebted to [redacted] who is a convicted felon.

4. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Sections 3-01/040.75, Failure to Make Statements and/or Making False Statements during Departmental Internal Investigations, on or about September 9, 2015, you failed to make full, complete and truthful statements and/or made false statements during an administrative interview as evidenced by, but not limited to:

a. stating that you did not recall apologizing for not being fully cooperative in your first interview with members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on September 8, 2013, and/or words to that effect;

and/or,

b. denying that you told members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that you did not know "[redacted]"; and/or,

c. stating that you merely knew "[redacted]" worked for [redacted] and knew he worked for Macho Sports; and/or,

d. stating that there were no promises made to [redacted] and/or words to that effect.

Additional facts for this decision are set forth in the Disposition Worksheet, Investigative Summary and Investigative Packet which are incorporated herein by reference.

You may respond to the intended action orally or in writing. In the event that you choose to respond orally to these charges, you have already been scheduled to meet with Commander Michael J. Parker, on June 20, 2016, at 1300 hours, in his office, which is located at 211 W. Temple Street, 6th Floor, Los Angeles 90012. If you are unable to appear at the scheduled time and wish to schedule some other time prior to June 20, 2016, for your oral response, please call Commander Parker's secretary at [redacted] for an appointment.

If you choose to respond in writing, please call Commander Parker's secretary to cancel your scheduled appointment, and send your response to the facts contained in this letter to Commander Parker's office by no later than June 23, 2016.

Unless you are currently on some other type of authorized leave, pursuant to Rule 16.01 of the Los Angeles County Civil Service Commission Rules, effective immediately, you are on paid administrative leave which will continue during the fifteen (15) business days you have to respond to the intended discharge or until the conclusion of your pre-disciplinary hearing. If you are presently on an authorized leave, that leave will continue during the fifteen (15) business days you have to respond to the intended discharge, or until the conclusion of your pre-disciplinary hearing.

Failure to respond to this Letter of Intent within fifteen (15) business days will be considered a waiver of your right to respond and will result in the imposition of the discipline indicated herein.

If you did not receive the investigative material on which your discipline is based at the time you were served with this correspondence, you may contact the Internal Affairs Bureau at (323) 890-5300, to obtain a copy of the case file.

The Sheriff's Department reserves the right to amend and/or add to this letter.

Sincerely,

JIM McDONNELL, SHERIFF

John M. Roberts, Captain
Internal Affairs Bureau

Note: Attached for your convenience are excerpts of the applicable areas of the Manual of Policy and Procedures.

JMR:MJP:jr

cc: Advocacy Unit
Employee Relations Unit
Michael J. Parker, Commander, Personnel and Training Command
Internal Affairs Bureau
(File #IV2349305)

July 13, 2016

Date of Department Hire 01/07/1998

Deputy Marland Wooldridge, #[redacted]

Dear Deputy Wooldridge:

On June 2, 2016, you were served with a Letter of Intention indicating your right to respond to the Sheriff's Department's pending disciplinary action against you, as reported under File Number IAB 2349305. You were also advised of your right to review the material on which the discipline was based.

You did exercise your right to respond. However, after review and consideration of the response submitted to support your position, it has been determined that the recommended discipline is appropriate.

You are hereby notified that you are discharged from your position of Deputy Sheriff, Item No. 2708A, with this Department, effective as of the close of business on July 12, 2016.

An investigation under File Number IAB 2349305, conducted by Internal Affairs Bureau, coupled with your own statements, has established the following:

1. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Sections 3-01/040.85, Cooperation During Criminal Investigation; and/or 3-01/040.76, Obstructing an Investigation; and/or, 3-01/040.75, False Statements; and/or 3-01/030.05, General Behavior, on or about September 8, 2013, you failed to fully cooperate in, or obstructed an investigation when you knowingly provided false evidence, and/or withheld information, and/or failed to make full, complete, and truthful statements to members of the Federal Bureau of

Investigation as they conducted an investigation regarding an illegal gambling operation as evidenced by, but not limited to:

a. admitting on November 1, 2013, to members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that you were not being fully cooperative during your first interview on September 8, 2013, and expressing remorse, and/or words to that effect; and/or,

b. failing to provide candid and detailed information regarding [redacted] and/or,

c. stating that you did not know [redacted] and/or words to that effect; and/or,

d. failing to provide a complete account of your relationship with [redacted] and/or [redacted]; and/or,

e. stating that you never bet with [redacted] and/or words to that effect; and/or,

f. stating that you did not know that [redacted] collected money for Macho Sports, and/or words to that effect; and/or,

g. stating that [redacted] never talked to you about having paid [redacted] any amount of money, and/or words to that effect; and/or,

h. stating you knew Mr. [redacted] was arrested for something else, and/or words to that effect; and/or,

i. stating you could not assume (didn't know) that [redacted] was a gang member, and/or words to that effect; and/or,

j. stating that you pretended to make promises to [redacted] and/or words to that effect.

Your conduct brought discredit to himself and/or the Department.

2. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Sections 3-01/050.85, Fraternization and Prohibited

Associations; and/or 3-01/030.05, General Behavior; and/or 3-01/000.13, Professional Conduct – Core Values, on or about and/or between January 7, 1998 through June 19, 2013, you maintained a personal relationship with [redacted] a person who you knew, or reasonably should have known facilitated gambling, and/or knew, or should have reasonably known that your association with [redacted] would otherwise be detrimental to the image of the Department and/or be an immediate threat to the integrity of the Department. Your conduct was inconsistent with the Core Values of the Department and/or brought discredit to yourself and/or the Department as evidenced by, but not limited to:

a. admitting during a September 9, 2015, administrative interview that you maintained a personal relationship with [redacted] since 1990 or 1991, up and until June 19, 2013, when [redacted] was arrested by the Federal Bureau of Investigation for conducting unlawful computer and telephonic serviced-based sports gambling; and/or,

b. being audio-recorded speaking with [redacted] and/or his [redacted] on numerous occasions during a Federal Bureau of Investigation's probe into illegal gambling; and/or,

c. admitting during a September 8, 2013, interview with members of the Federal Bureau of Investigations that you knew [redacted] was a "bookie," person who facilitated gambling, and that [redacted] took bets "off-shore"; and/or,

d. admitting during a September 8, 2013, interview with members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that you knew [redacted] was arrested for something else, and/or words to that effect; and/or,

e. admitting during a September 8, 2013, interview with members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation

that you borrowed $10,000 (amount was actually $12,000) from [redacted] with no terms or contract regarding paying back the loan, and/or words to that effect; and/or,

f. admitting during a November 1, 2013, interview with members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that you knew [redacted] had been questioned regarding gambling charges; and/or,

g. admitting during a November 1, 2013, interview with members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that you made a handful of bets with [redacted] and/or words to that effect; and/or,

h. admitting during a November 1, 2013, interview with members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that you still owed [redacted] $8,000 on the loan and you used the money to pay attorney fees and living expenses, and/or words to that effect; and/or,

i. being audio-recorded on February 1, 2013, by the Federal Bureau of Investigation discussing with [redacted] [redacted] status as a "fucking [redacted]" and/or " that [redacted] was arrested for [redacted] and/or that [redacted] gave [redacted] "50 grand" and "he pissed it all away, taking his [redacted] out, you know, probably staying at the Ritz Carlton, doing a bunch of coke and all this, whatever, and in eight months $100 thousand dollars was gone," and/or affirming to [redacted] that you would look at [redacted] information tomorrow when returned to work and stating that you would follow up with "[redacted]," and/or words to that effect; and/or,

j. admitting during a November 1, 2013, interview with members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that you knew [redacted] was a "collector" and "muscle" who retrieved gambling debts for [redacted] and Macho Sports; and/or,

k. admitting during a November 1, 2013, interview with members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that [redacted] told you that [redacted] was a gang member and he believed [redacted] was a "Crip"; and/or,

l. stating during a November 1, 2013, interview with members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that you and [redacted] discussed how [redacted] was the organizer of the organization and how the organization was set up in Panama and Peru, and/or words to that effect; and/or,

m. being audio-recorded on February 3, 2013, by the Federal Bureau of Investigation discussing with [redacted] that [redacted] owed him "three grand" and [redacted] stiffed him for "four thousand"; and/or,

n. being audio-recorded on January 31, 2013, by the Federal Bureau of Investigation accepting an invitation to [redacted] Super Bowl party in February of 2013; and/or,

o. attending [redacted] Super Bowl party in Santa Monica and being audio-recorded by members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on February 3, 2013, asking [redacted] why he had not arrived for the Super Bowl party; and/or,

p. being audio-recorded by members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on February 5, 2013, discussing the events that occurred at the Super Bowl party.

3. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Section 3-01/030.07, Immoral Conduct, on or about May or June 2012, you exercised poor judgement and knowingly received a $12,000 loan from [redacted] someone you knew or should have known organized and participated in an illegal gambling operation and used "collectors" or "muscle" to retrieve unpaid debts. You remain indebted to [redacted] who is a convicted [redacted].

4. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Sections 3-01/040.75, Failure to Make Statements and/or Making False Statements during Departmental Internal Investigations, on or about September 9, 2015, you failed to make full, complete and truthful statements and/or made false statements during an administrative interview as evidenced by, but not limited to:

   a. stating that you did not recall apologizing for not being fully cooperative in your first interview with members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on September 8, 2013, and/or words to that effect; and/or,

   b. denying that you told members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that you did not know [redacted] and/or,

   c. stating that you merely knew [redacted] worked for [redacted] and knew he worked for Macho Sports; and/or,

   d. stating that there were no promises made to [redacted] and/or words to that effect.

Additional facts for this decision are set forth in the Disposition Worksheet, Investigative Summary and Investigative Packet which are incorporated herein by reference.

In taking this disciplinary action, your record with this Department has been considered, and a thorough review of this incident has been made by Department executives, including your Unit and Division Commanders.

You may appeal the Department's action in this matter pursuant to Rules 4.02, 4.05 and 18.02 of the Civil Service Rules.

You may, if you so desire, within fifteen (15) business days from the date of service of this notice of discharge, request a hearing on these charges before the Los Angeles County Civil Service Commission, 500 W. Temple Street, Room 522, Los Angeles, California 90012.

The Sheriff's Department reserves the right to amend and/or add to this letter.

Sincerely,

JIM McDONNELL, SHERIFF

CONRAD MEREDITH, A/DIVISION DIRECTOR
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

Note: Attached for your convenience are excerpts of the applicable areas of the Manual of Policy and Procedures and Civil Service Rules.

CM:KM:JMR:pc

cc: Advocacy Unit
Conrad Meredith, A/Division Director, Administration Services Division
Michael J. Parker, Commander, Personnel & Training Command
Kimberly L. Unland, Captain, Personnel Administration Bureau
Internal Affairs Bureau
(File #IV 2349305)